

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jean-Pierre Bertin, et al.

Filed: Herewith

For: APPARATUS FOR RECEIVING AUDIOVISUAL
PROGRAMS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents

10 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of fees,
please enter the following Preliminary Amendment and the
15 accompanying remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

20 Please replace the claims with amended claims 1-9 as follows. A marked up copy of the amended claims is attached herewith.

1. (Amended) Apparatus for receiving audio-visual programs comprising a circuit for communication with means of connection to a bi-directional communication network, wherein the apparatus comprises :

- a first connector of a bus for communication with a master apparatus, the first connector comprising at least one conductor for the transmission of a supply voltage originating from the master apparatus,
- at least one second connector of a communication bus, each second connector allowing the connection of at least one peripheral,
- a splitter connected on the one hand to the first and second connectors and on the other hand to a controller managing the mode of operation of the connectors in relation to the apparatus,